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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial.—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS. 1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice, whether direct to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

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SECOND EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

PARTY STRENGTH ON JOINT BALLOT.

Wallace Leads in the Senatorial Race.

ACTIVE CONTEST FOR OFFICE.

THE ORGANIZATION FORESHADOWED.

Improvements in the Capitol—The House Accommodations Remodeled—Both Chambers Freshened and Furnished Anew.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 2, 1875.

Death and sickness are making sad havoc with the members of the House of Representatives. In addition to the death of Baldorf, of Berks, and Hunter, of Armstrong, word has just been received of the death of Mr. Wolf, one of the Democratic members from Centre. One of the Bedford Democratic members and one each of the same party from Berks and Cambria are said to be too sick to attend the opening of the House of Representatives, and Judge Farrar, a Republican, of Washington county, is also alleged to be sick. This would leave five of the Democratic side disabled and two Republicans. It is also reported that the Court of Venango county has awarded the seat of Park, Democrat, who was reported elected by one majority, to McCreery, his Republican competitor; enough errors having been legally discovered to change the result. This would increase the Republican force in the House to 93, and reduce the Democratic to 108. Deducting the vacancies by death and sickness the Republican vote in the House would be 91, and the Democratic 103. On joint ballot, for United States Senator, supposing this state of things to continue until the 28th, the vote would be 123 Democratic to 121 Republican, which is too close to be comfortable for Democratic aspirants.

There is also another complication. Mr. Colihan, the Democratic Senator-elect from Schuylkill county, will not be allowed to take the oath of office without objection. There are quite a number of affidavits here, ready for presentation when Colihan's credentials are read, setting forth that the affiants received money from that gentleman as a consideration for their votes for him. It is contended that, with these affidavits before the Senate, Mr. C. cannot be sworn in, and that if the Senate should find the allegations to be true, the effect would be to unseat him, he being thereby made constitutionally ineligible. In that event there would be but 122 Democratic votes against 121 Republican.

Senator Wallace, himself confined to a sick bed at the time, was called home this morning by intelligence of the death of his aged father, in Clearfield. The blow was not unexpected, but was none the less unwelcome.

The Bolton House, which is the Democratic headquarters, is the scene of busy caucussing and button-holing, and swarms like a beehive with Democrats whose mouths are watering for official pap. So far, the stakes for Patterson's election to the Speakership have been driven too firmly to be moved, but the Chief Clerkship has been passing around like a ball, from hand to hand, all day. It early became apparent that McGowan, of Philadelphia, could not make it, and it is now understood that he has withdrawn in favor of the modern George Lippard, known as John Miller, of Chester county, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee. It is nip and tuck, this afternoon, between him and Adam Woolever, of Lehigh, with the chances a little in favor of Woolever.

The excitement over these two offices has diverted attention from all the rest, and it is impossible even to guess who will be chosen to fill the minor offices. There are plenty of candidates on hand, particularly from Allegheny and Philadelphia, and some of them are bound to be disappointed; but as they are not the first who have had that experience, there will not be much sympathy wasted upon them.

If the Senate is seemingly satisfied that Mr. Cutler, of Erie, will be chosen Speaker, Mr. Errett, Chief Clerk, Mr. Cochran, of Lancaster, Journal Clerk, Mr. Rogers, of McKean, Reading Clerk, Messrs. Nyce, of Montgomery, and Rupert, of Crawford, Transcribing Clerks, A. Coryell, of Philadelphia, Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. McKinney, of Lawrence, Postmaster, Mr. Darragh, of Philadelphia, Messenger, and some one from the Blair district, Doorkeeper; Messrs. Williams and Coates, of Allegheny, will have places assigned them, which are not yet determined upon. Possibly, also, some one from Allegheny City, to be designated by Mr. McNeill, may also obtain a place, but this is merely a chance.

The Senatorial fight remains in abeyance until the preliminary fight on the organization of the House is over. The ugly feeling on the part of the opponents of Wallace is so palpable that it is safe to conclude they consider themselves beaten. There is none of the consciousness of victory in their mien, and they bluster like defeated men. On the other hand, the Wallace men are not either confident or sanguine to the extent which those feel who have a sure thing. Their prospects are decidedly the best, but they are not yet arrived at certainty. The Clymer men are not the most numerous, but they are the most noisy, and the temper evinced by them toward the Wallace crowd, is not by any means angelic. It is a long way, yet, from the spirit of revolt, but there is no telling what it may come to.

The general appearance of the chambers of the two Houses has been very much improved by the changes in them which were rendered necessary by the enlargement of the number of members. The Senate chamber is now arranged to seat fifty-six, instead of thirty-six, as heretofore, and the House to seat two hundred instead of one hundred. The addition of a row of seats was all that was necessary in the Senate, but the House has been completely rearranged, and furnished with new and smaller desks and new chairs. Both chambers have been refrescoed, and the fresh look given to them thereby and by the new furniture, makes them look very attractive and pleasant to the eye. The cumbrous stands upon which the Speakers were perched, under the old arrangement, have been supplanted by light and airy desks, very much to the prospective comfort of the presiding officers.

P. S.—Since the above was written, I learn that the Court of Venango county has not awarded the certificate to McCreery, but simply refused the motion made by Park's attorneys to quash the petition of McCreery. A commission was then appointed to take testimony, and the case was then adjourned until Wednesday next. This will allow Park to be sworn in; but if the Court should decide in favor of McCreery, the certificate to that effect would oust Park from his seat, and throw the burden of appeal upon him.

I also learn that the Clymer men concede the Speaker to the Wallace side, upon condition that the Clerkship shall be left open to a vote in caucus. The effect of this will be to make Patterson the Speaker, with the chances decidedly in favor of Miller for Clerk, as he, being Chairman of their State Committee, is supposed to be alike acceptable to all the candidates for Senator. That is an easy way out of a difficulty, and effectually disposes of Hutchison, McGowan, Woolever, and all the other aspirants.

As Miller is a personal friend of Wallace, although not actively at work as his partisan, this, to a man up a tree, seems very much like giving up the fight, and practically acknowledges Wallace's victory in advance.

SPECIAL.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 3, 1875.

The Democratic headquarters, the Bolton House, is thronged with an anxious, hungry crowd surging through the halls and bar-room. As no caucus has yet been held, nothing certain is known, but it is generally conceded that Patterson will be Speaker. The contest for Chief Clerk appears to be between Woolever, of Lehigh, and McAteer, of Huntingdon, both ex-members. There is less talk to-day about Miller for Clerk than yesterday. The majority seem to be without a head or leader, and there is much clashing of interests. Buccalew came to-day, and is working hard to break the combination in favor of Wallace. Allegheny will probably get two or three subordinate positions, in addition to the Speakership.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Some Shooting at Parkersburg.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PARKERSBURG, W. VA., January 3, 1875.

William Dye, of Marietta, while exhibiting a revolver in a house of ill-fame, here, yesterday, shot Mollie Madden in the neck, being what he had done. Dye attempted to shoot himself in the head, but a woman struck his arm down and the ball lodged in his left thigh, grazing the femoral artery. Neither he nor Mollie is fatally wounded. Dye was taken home to Marietta to-day. Mollie insists that it was all the result of pure accident.

A Reward is Offered

for a flour that will make as much or as good bread as the great White River, for the price.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

STATEMENT FOR DECEMBER.

Increase During the Month, $3,659,967.

WASHINGTON, January 2, 1875.—The following is a recapitulation of the public debt of the United States for the month of December, 1874, just issued:

Six per cent. bonds	$1,157,080,100	
Five per cent. bonds	596,999,500	
Total coin bonds		$1,754,079,600
Lawful money debt		14,078,000
Matured debt		19,122,930
Legal tender notes	$ 382,072,317	
Certificates of deposit	41,300,000	
Fractional currency	46,700,908	
Coin certificates	23,540,990	
Total without interest		$ 493,203,515
Total debt		$2,240,514,230
Total interest		39,724,477
Total debt and interest		$2,280,238,683
Cash in Treasury, coin	$ 82,587,449	
Cash in Treasury, currency	13,052,951	
Special deposit held for redemption of certificates of deposit as provided by law	41,300,000	
Total in Treasury		$ 137,740,381
Debt less cash in the Treasury		2,142,498,302
Increase during December		3,670,967
Decrease since June 30, 1874		489,039
Bonds issued to Pacific Railway Companies, interest payable in lawful money, principal outstanding		64,623,512
Interest accrued and not yet paid		1,028,726
Interest paid by United States		24,325,836
Interest repaid by transportation of mails, &c		5,601,938
Balance of interest paid by United States		18,723,898

NEW ORLEANS.

The Investigation—Testimony of Bishop Wilmer—Governor Kellogg Asks that the Election of 1872 be Inquired of.

NEW ORLEANS, January 2.—The Congressional Committee met at 11 A. M.

Joseph Bowling testified that he resided in New Orleans and was a merchant, member of the firm of Peet, Yale & Bowling. Touching the commercial condition of New Orleans, he said it was much depressed; persons were afraid to enter upon any character of enterprise; attributed this to exorbitant taxes that have existed. The depression is evident, in one particular, by the great numbers of business houses now offered for rent. Some houses are offered by owners to such persons as will take them, pay the taxes and keep the houses in repair, and frequently there are no takers even on these terms. Was here on the 14th of September. The feeling of the business community after that event, that is when it was supposed the People's government had been established, was buoyant. A revival of business was anticipated. There is an extended desire on the part of the people to leave Louisiana because of the existing State of affairs.

LETTER FROM GOVERNOR KELLOGG.

The following letter from Governor Kellogg to the Congressional Committee was delivered this evening:

NEW ORLEANS, January 1, 1875.

Hon. Chas. Foster, Chairman of Sub-Committee on Louisiana Affairs:

SIR—I have been informed by one of the counsel engaged in the investigation now taking place before your Committee, that you have determined not to include the election of 1872 within the scope of your investigation. Permit me respectfully to suggest that the question whether or not Louisiana was carried by the Republican party in the election of 1872 has been the principal disputed point which for two years has agitated the State. Religiously believing that I was elected by a majority of votes actually cast at that election, I have struggled to discharge to the best of my office amidst difficulties such as few men have been called upon to encounter. Nothing but a sense of my duty has kept me at my post during all these weary months of obloquy and misrepresentation. Recently I telegraphed to the President, urging that a committee of Congress be sent here, believing that such committee, being upon the ground with power to send for persons and papers, could ascertain the right of the question, so far as I and the government I represent are concerned. I am intensely anxious, and I think justly so, that there should be some solution of this difficulty. I believe an investigation that need not last many days would reasonably satisfy any impartial mind whether I was elected in 1872 or not; but even by taking a general view of the case, I think something might be done to elucidate the question. For instance: if the Committee were to take the returns of 1872, as made by both Boards, and contrast them with the returns of this year, as made by the Returning Board, as claimed by the Democratic party, with such facts and details as I think could be readily obtained, I believe a right conclusion could be arrived at. The census and relative registration of whites and blacks, and the relative vote in 1872 and 1874 would throw much light on the matter, and I would submit that the returns from those Democratic parishes where, by the fusion count of the former Board, we were allowed our reasonable minority vote in 1872, but where no Republican vote, or scarcely one, was permitted to be cast this year, might properly be considered. I have had no opportunity to examine in detail the returns of 1872 as made by the Fusionists. Those returns are probably acceptable, and their authenticity or genuineness is susceptible of proof. Allow me to suggest, as another mode likely to aid in reaching a conclusion, that the returns of 1872, as made by the Fusion Board, be taken as correct, whenever they do not widely differ from the returns of the Lynch Board, and where they do so differ let the returns from these same parishes this year, as claimed by the Democratic Committee themselves, be taken as representing the vote of 1872. For instance: Take the twenty-eight parishes where both Boards return the same candidates to the House, and adopt the returns of the former Board. Then, for other parishes where the two Boards differed widely, take the vote this year, as returned by the Democratic committee. This will be to considered returns in which, in many cases, the Republicans were not credited with their full votes actually cast, by means of fraudulent practices, as can be easily shown. These aspects of the case, with other evidence procurable, will, I believe, go very far to elucidate the right of this controversy. Believing the committee you represent has the confidence of the country, I, speaking for myself, will gladly abide by its decision. If I am to consistently, go into this much disputed question of the election of 1872, with the facts and figures and other proofs believed to be available, I feel very strongly the necessity that this important question should be determined in some decisive manner, and as this is my only excuse for presuming to offer these suggestions to your Committee, permit me to add that I trust the Opposition will be awarded full opportunity before your departure to make good some, at least, of the many allegations of maladministration and corruption they have constantly sent abroad with regard to myself. The records of the State are easy of access, and I will cheerfully afford every possible facility for an inquiry, both thorough and complete, to the end that it may be known how bad my administration is and if it is justly chargeable with the many evils complained of.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, (Signed) W. H. KELLOGG.

The venerable Bishop Wilmer was next called to take the stand. The Bishop said: I am no politician; never have concerned myself much in political struggles. The depression in the country is almost without precedent in a civilized community. Our people are in despair. Many of them who are able to go away, are preparing to leave the State. Those who cannot, are doing their best to struggle against the difficulties that surround them. I am at a loss to enter into particulars, unless a question is asked me.

Mr. Phelps—Perhaps it would be of interest to know what are, in your opinion, the main causes of this lamentable state of affairs.

A. Answer—I can attribute it only to the loss of confidence and universal distrust which have paralysed the energies of our people, added to their very many losses and the change in the system of labor, and also to the unnumbered depredations to which they are exposed on every side, without the power of bringing the perpetrators to punishment. The universal testimony in the country is that the people cannot raise anything because they cannot keep it. It is stolen from them. No description of mine could enable you to realize that it is impossible, in many parts of the country, to raise any stock or vegetables for their families. We have no resources whatever. It would affect you very much to hear the stories which I could give you of the extreme poverty to which many people are reduced, who formerly lived in affluence. With reference to the government, I think that which we want is some means of bringing those who violate the law to punishment. Persons are sent to the penitentiary; when they return there is no stain attached to their good name. I know of no instance in which a person escaping justice has lost anything in the esteem of his friends and companions. I am speaking particularly of petty crimes. I went into one parish the other day, and the churches were closed. The people had no means with which to support a minister. I know of a case where refined ladies had raised a garden of vegetables, when in a single night they were robbed of everything.

Mr. Phelps—Why is not theft punished?

The Bishop—The juries are partial in their judgment and unjust in their decisions. The guilty are never punished for their crimes.

Mr. Phelps—How then can that be corrected?

The Bishop—By a more rigid administration of justice and a better selection of juries; by dealing with such crimes according to law, and showing that there is no hope of escape. Many of the people are miserable and ignorant and do not realize the criminality of their acts.

Mr. Phelps—But if the moral sense of the community is so low, how can those men be punished by any system of government?

The Bishop—That is a subject for legislation. I am absolutely opposed to universal suffrage.

Mr. Phelps—What is your opinion as to the efficiency of the judges and others engaged in the administration of justice?

The Bishop—I have great distrust in them. The character of the men occupying these offices is bad. Of course there are conspicuous examples. The Police Judges are composed of men entirely unfitted for that office. The Parish Judges are extremely ignorant and incompetent to discharge their duties.

Mr. Phelps—My question takes rather a political turn, but an answer would be worth very much to us. What interference has there been on either side with the full expression of the citizens' will? In other words, was there any intimidation used on either side to prevent any man from voting as he pleased?

The Bishop—I suppose that discharging from employment is included. Manufacturers prefer to employ persons who are in favor of tariff protection. The government employ those who are in sympathy with the government. Railroads are apt to find their best employees among those who uphold the interests of railroad enterprises. In like manner, I think it is probable that a large number of planters would prefer to employ those who would not militate against their interests. I do not know a single instance where any man has rejected those who voted in opposition to his interests. I have heard colored voters say that they would have voted the Democratic ticket if they had not been afraid of persecution, and many would vote that ticket if they were not restrained by those around them.

Mr. Foster—You have confined yourself to minor crimes: let me ask you concerning higher ones. Does a white man suffer disgrace for killing a negro?

The Bishop—I take it for granted that he does, without any qualification. I cannot imagine any greater crime than when a man commits such an act for political reasons, whether he is white or black.

Mr. Foster—We are of the opinion that it would not injure a man to kill a negro.

The Bishop—I think our people are more prone than others to sudden acts of violence.

Mr. Foster—Can you say whether there is a feeling of insecurity among white people as to their persons and property?

The Bishop—Very great. I think there is more security in the northern part of the State.

Adjourned till Monday morning.

DISPOSITION OF TROOPS FOR TO-DAY—FEARS OF DISORDER AT THE ASSEMBLING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

NEW ORLEANS, January 3.—In response to the request of Governor Kellogg, General Emory has ordered the disposition of troops to-morrow in close proximity to the State House. General Hugh J. Campbell, of the State militia, will command the forces inside of the State House. What this force will be, has not transpired.

A body of Metropolitans, without guns, will be there as conservators of the peace. The police officials state that the Metropolitans have not been requested to occupy the State House as soldiers. It is currently reported to-night that the White League have been ordered to be there to-morrow. Nervous people persist in talking about the prospects of a row, but the citizens generally maintain their usual composure, notwithstanding the disposition of troops.

THE COMMITTEE'S DISCUSSION.

Messrs. Foster, Potter and Phelps, of the Congressional Committee, with a number of prominent citizens, went on an excursion down the river to-day, to the plantation of Col. Effingham Lawrence, where they witnessed the process of sugar making and everything connected with it, from cutting the cane to packing away sugar. The party was sumptuously entertained by Col. Lawrence, and returned to the city at 9 P. M.

THE WARMOTH-JEWELL DUEL

is off, by agreement of friends of the parties.

STATE HOUSE BARRICADED AND GUARDED—FORTY REPUBLICAN MEMBERS ALREADY IN THEIR SEATS.

The doors of the State House to-night are securely barricaded, except the Royal street entrance. A Conservative, who called there early this evening, had a conversation with Mr. Lowell and was informed by him that the Republicans had forty members in the building, who were there last night and will remain there to-night. There is also a strong force of police in the building. It is rumored on the streets to-night that the Returning Board had reassembled and counted the Republican majorities in the parish that they had referred to the Legislature. This report, however, is regarded as a canard. Governor Kellogg is reported as having stated to-day that all members of the Legislature declared by the Returning Board, and all those contesting, would be admitted to the State House. The Conservatives seem to think that only those declared by the Returning Board will be admitted. General De Trobriand will command the troops covering the State House to-morrow.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE—REPUBLICAN MEMBER KILLED.

During the excursion to-day, it is stated that the Congressional Committee were unanimous in expressing the opinion that the action of the Returning Board cannot stand. They believe the Democrats have a majority in the House and the Republicans a majority in the Senate. The Conservatives report forty-eight members in caucus to-night and the Republicans forty. The city is quiet at midnight. A colored man is reported killed on Toulouse street, about nine o'clock. He is said to be a member of the Legislature.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-day.—For the Ohio Valley, rising barometer, lower temperature, northwest to northeast winds, and rain or snow. For the Middle States and Lower Lake region, northeast to northwest winds, increasing cloudiness, rain, sleet or snow, falling temperature and falling, followed by rising barometer.

The Tennessee Legislature meets to-day.

Governor Tilden, of New York, was inducted into office Friday.

Henry Ward Beecher received over one thousand New Year calls.

Sam Sharpley, the well-known Ethiopian minstrel, died at Providence Friday night.

President Grant favors the granting of pensions to the veterans of the Mexican war.

The steamers Cuba, from Liverpool, and Utopia, from Glasgow, have arrived at New York.

Marshal Serrano has quietly transferred the command of the Spanish armies to General Laserna.

A dispatch from London announces the death of Mrs. J. Lothrop Motley, wife of the American historian.

Accounts from Asia Minor show that the distress from famine is increasing, and many deaths occur daily.

Judge M. R. Hardin, late Chief Justice of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, died in Louisville yesterday afternoon.

The funeral of Gerrit Smith took place at Peterboro, New York, on Friday, Rev. S. R. Colthrop, of the Unitarian Church, officiating.

Garibaldi has written a letter declining the national grant for his relief, because of the condition of Italian finances. He expresses his gratitude to Parliament.

Colonel Henry, with a company of the Third Cavalry, left Red Cloud agency on the 26th of December for the eastern slopes of the Black Hills, to drive out the invading miners.

The London *Times* says the Swiss, Austrian and Belgian governments have adopted stringent measures against the importation of American potatoes infected with the Colorado beetle.

Ex-priest Gerdeman, after a hearing upon a writ of *habeas corpus*, was, on Saturday, remanded for trial for embezzlement of the funds of St. Bonifacius' Catholic church, Philadelphia.

The body of the late Hon. Walter F. Stone, ex-Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, arrived in Sandusky, from San Francisco, yesterday morning. The funeral will take place to-morrow at 2 P. M.

The Pennsylvania Railroad shops at Altoona will to-day begin working nine hours per day and six days in the week. For the past six months the men have been working eight hours per day and five days in the week.

The grocery firm of Roe Bros., of Chicago, have failed, with liabilities amounting to $187,000, which amount is divided among thirty-five creditors. The amount of stock on hand amounts to not over $15,000. The other assets are not yet announced.

One of the first acts of the new Spanish ministry will be to telegraph to the Captain General of Cuba to exercise a conciliatory spirit and pacify the Cubans by re-establishing, as far as possible, a cordial understanding between the home and provincial governments.

WASHINGTON.

NEW YEAR RECEPTIONS.

Brilliant Assemblages at the White House and Private Residences.

HOW THE SPANISH NEWS IS REGARDED.

ITS EFFECT ON CUBAN AFFAIRS.

Vigorous Move to be Made for the Virginius Indemnity.

GRIEVOUS COMPLAINTS AGAINST LORIN BLODGETT.

No Immediate Reduction of the Public Debt Probable.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 2, 1875.

New Year Receptions.

The accustomed calls of ceremony and friendship were universally observed on New Year's day. The reception at the President's house was one of the most brilliant which has taken place during the administration of Presidents within the recollection of many of the oldest citizens of the city. Postmaster General Jewell, with his wife and daughters, received with a degree of elegance unequaled by any of the Cabinet officers. The general receptions were well thronged.

The Spanish News.

While the highly embellished diplomatic representations of the divers foreign rulers were making their New Year's calls at the Republican Capital, the radical change in the governmental form of the Spanish republic, though looked for sooner or later, was quite unexpected. Cable dispatches have been received here communicating information in regard to the transition of affairs now going on in Spain.

Complaints Against Lorin Blodgett.

The discharge of one of the Justices of the Supreme Bench over the unaccountable interference of Lorin Blodgett, Chief of the Customs Division, in their decisions has led to complaints of the same nature from the Department of Justice and other sources. The New York merchants, at the same time, have made repeated charges of unintelligibility of his interpretation of the law. This absence of perspicuity is no new thing, as it was a matter of notice in a Congressional report twenty years ago in a memorial presented by him respecting scientific work done for the Smithsonian Institution. It is learned that the rumors of Mr. Blodgett's removal are without foundation, at least at present. He is considered an efficient appraiser, and will likely be ordered back to his post at Philadelphia.

The Cuban Situation.

The impression in diplomatic circles here, is that the re-establishment of the monarchy in Spain will strengthen the Spanish authorities in Cuba, that the refractory conduct of the planters and volunteers will now disappear, and that men and money will be cheerfully given for the suppression of the insurrection. The friends of the rebellion, on the other hand, derive much encouragement from the changes, as they declare that the Secretary of State can no longer oppose the recognition of Cuban independence on the ground of embarrassing a rising republic.

The Virginius Indemnity.

It is very generally believed that the Government will now make an immediate demand for a settlement of the indemnity for the Virginius butchery. On Saturday the Secretary of State had an interview with the President. It is definitely ascertained that a more vigorous policy toward Spain will be inaugurated.

The Public Debt.

In consequence of the falling off of the revenue of the Government, there is no prospect of a reduction of the public debt for some months. The reduction during the past six months has been but half a million.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 3, 1875.

THE LITTLE TARIFF BILL.

The Conference Committee on the so-called "little tariff bill" had another meeting yesterday, but failed to agree to a compromise on the points which divide the two Houses. Several members of the Committee on Ways and Means said last night that it was not probable the bill would pass.

POTTSVILLE.

Schuylkill Miners Reject the Compromise—General Suspension of Collieries—Puddlers to Resume Work To-day.

POTTSVILLE, January 3.—Individual operators in the region, including the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron companies, have adopted the scale of wages embraced in the following circular:

PHILADELPHIA, December 31, 1874.

Rates of wages for 1875, adopted by the Executive Committee of the Schuylkill Coal Exchange:

Outside wages—first class, $1 50 per day; second class, $1 35. All other outside labor to be reduced ten per cent. and all outside labor to be specified in the yard, chute and with no sliding scale. All inside work to be on the basis system: $2 50 for coal at Port Carbon; only white ash collieries to be allowed; inside labor and miners' wages to be reduced ten per cent. from present prices; contract work to be reduced twenty per cent. on present prices. Inside work to be paid for every three cents advance in the price of coal at Port Carbon above $2 50, and one per cent. to be paid for every ten cents advance in price below $2 50; no maximum and no minimum. (Signed) ALBERT B. ECKEL, Secretary.

On Saturday, a committee consisting of G. W. Cole, T. Garrettson and Dr. Miller, representing the Schuylkill Coal Exchange, met a committee consisting of Messrs. Welsh, Johnson, Roberts and Brown, representing the Miners and Laborers' Benevolent Association, and presented the above circular of prices, which, after some discussion, was rejected by the committee representing the miners.

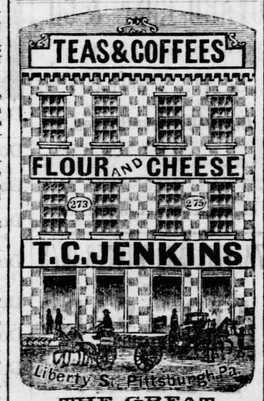
The *Miners' Journal* states that the collieries in this region are all suspended at present. The miners ceased working at the close of the year, and the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company have suspended all improvements until the wages question is settled for 1875. This is the state of affairs at present. The men employed in the iron trade in this vicinity have been idle a long time. The puddlers in this city, on a strike for several months past, against a reduction of wages, will resume work to-morrow, giving employment to a large number of men. It is generally understood that the rate of wages is to be the same as paid at Allentown, Bethlehem and Harrisburg furnaces, being a compromise.

Look Out for Dealers

that present they have White River Flour under other brands. This is often done to make sales.

Use Non-Explosive Oil.

Sold by T. C. Jenkins, Checkered Front. Every dealer should have it.



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FLOUR AND GROCERY HOUSE.

THE ONLY HOUSE THAT HANDLES

WHITE RIVER, SNOW FLAKE and GOLDEN FLEECE.

HEADQUARTERS FOR

GOSHEN CHEESE, N. O. MOLASSES and ROAST COFFEES.

☞NO CHARGES FOR DRAYAGE.

UTAH.

The Mountain Meadow Massacre as Explained by the Wife of Lee.

SALT LAKE, January 2.—A statement published here, purporting to be a description of the Mountain Meadow massacre, by Rachiel, wife number four of John D. Lee, states that at the time of the massacre Lee was living at Fort Harmony as an Indian farmer under Brigham Young, who was then Governor and Superintendent of Indian affairs in this Territory. The statement claims that these emigrants poisoned a spring at Corn Creek, and that an Indian and some stock died therefrom; that the Indians then rallied, followed the train, and notwithstanding all the efforts of the Mormons, the party was surrounded by the Indians. After several days' fighting, Lee induced the emigrants to surrender their arms to him in two wagons, with which he started for Cedar City, telling them to follow for protection, soon after which he heard firing and sounds of the massacre. The statement comes through Lee's attorney.

The Western University begins the new year with a full complement of instructors, prepared to give instructions in all the modern branches of an education—technical, scientific or classical.

CONSUMERS should use from one-fourth to one-half less of Dooley's than of other Yeast or Baking Powders. It is put up full weight. d&w

☞*Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—BY AN ACTIVE MAN OF ten years' business experience, a chance to travel for some Manufactory or Wholesale House, or make himself useful in office or store. Not afraid of work. Address "NAT S. H.," this office.

WANTED—MODELS—INVENTORS and others wanting Patent Office Models or Experimental Models of I. & M. Wood or Brass to call at Keystone Pattern and Model Works of J. F. MILLER & CO., 68 Water street and 80 First avenue.

WANTED—PROPOSALS—FOR Building two three-story Brick Dwelling Houses, party building to take two Building Lots in Thirty-second Ward as part pay on contract of the building. Apply to Plans, &c., to G. W. RANKIN, Real Estate Agent, 104 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

WANTED—PARTNER—WITH CASH capital of $12,000, an experienced accountant or man of general business knowledge preferred, to take an active interest in a well established and good paying business. References exchanged. Address, with real name and address, Lock Box 1202, Pittsburgh, Pa. 6

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—ROOMS—NICELY FURNISHED Rooms, with or without Board, apply at No. 60 Rose street.

FOR RENT—STOREROOM AND Dwelling, No. 179 Smithfield street. Possession immediately. Apply to J. H. JOHNSTON 285 Liberty street.

FOR RENT—ROOM—LARGE WELL lighted second floor Room, 44x60 feet, with good entrance, located on Smithfield street. The party holding it has a three year lease. For particulars address Box A. E., Commercial office.

FOR RENT—NO. 61 FOURTH AVE. Office, with Counter, Desk, Shelving, Book Vault, Counters, &c., suitable for Banking, Insurance or other offices; well lighted and heated. Washington Hall Building, under the banks of Mechanics' and Manufacturers' National Bank.

FOR RENT—A HANDSOME BRICK Dwelling House, on Cliff street, Parlors, Dining Room, Kitchen and Scullery on first floor; 3 Bedrooms and finished Attic, Water and modern improvements. The Lot runs to Webster street. It will be rented reasonable. Possession given immediately. For particulars apply to WM. EVANS, Commercial office.

FOR RENT OR SALE—NEW TWO-STORY Frame House, with Bay Window, consisting of 6 Rooms, Vestibule and Hall. Water in Kitchen; Lot 45x100, with Grapevines, &c., located on Graceland avenue, Allegheny, Washington Thirty-fifth ward, commanding the finest view in the city. Rent moderate to a good tenant. For particulars, &c., apply to E. ABEL, Commercial Counting Room.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—700 POUNDS MINION TYPE, nearly new. Will be sold at a bargain. Apply at this office.

FOR SALE—OAK TANNED LEATHER Belting and No. 1 "City Finish" Harness Leather at THORP & DUNCAN'S, Market street.

FOR SALE—NO. 165 SMITHFIELD street; Brick House 20x90. Lot 20x90 feet. Terms easy. Apply to J. H. JOHNSTON, 285 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—NO. 163 SMITHFIELD street; Brick three-story House, 20x60; Lot 20x90 feet. Terms easy. Apply to J. H. JOHNSTON, 285 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—NO. 7 SCOTT STREET, Seventh ward; Frame House of 7 Rooms; Gas, Water, Bath-room and Closet; Lot 40x100 feet. Apply to J. A. JOHNSTON, 285 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—SMALL GARDEN FARM, of 12 Acres, near Mansfield, on the Pan Handle Railroad; House, Stable and Orchard. Terms easy. Apply to J. H. JOHNSTON, 285 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—PLANING MILL MACHINERY, Sawing, Dressing, Tonguing and Grooving, Matching, &c. Also, Engine and Boiler, all in first-class order and guaranteed. Send for Descriptive Circular and Price List. M. H. COCHRAN & CO., 121 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS —New and Second-hand, of all sizes, Stationary and Portable, always on hand. Orders filled on hand. JAMES BELL & CO., corner Marion avenue and P., Ft. W. and C. R. R., Allegheny, Pa.

FOR SALE—THREE NEW DOUBLE-FLUE Boilers, 30 feet long, 66 inches diameter, from 12 to 20 horse power; Engines from 4 to 80 horse power; one Planing Machine. Apply to PEDERSON, MAXWELL & PORTER, 40 Fifth avenue, Allegheny.

FOR SALE—PATENT REPORTS—A full set of 61 Volumes, containing a complete list of Patents from the organization of the Government in 1790 to July 1st, 1874. Any volume from 1847 to 1874, $20 may be sent with the order, and the balance collected when the books are received by express, C. O. D. Address A. B. C., this office.

FOR SALE—FORTY SUPERIOR Second-hand Boilers, in good order, ranging from 20 inches to 7 feet diameter, and 10 feet to 40 feet long; double-flued and cylinder. County Inspector's certificate of test with each boiler. Apply at Allegheny Foundry, Nos. 1 and 3 Water Works, No. 12 Water street. J. WATSON & SON.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE FOR good city or country property—A number of valuable and well located Lots near South Chicago, and in close proximity to the Car Shops and Depot of several lines of Railroad. Those Lots are dry. The Calumet river is directly in front, and will be used by manufacturing and commercial point of Chicago. For particulars call at No. 3 Three-cent Bank avenue, or FLAGG, DURANT & CO., 104 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR SALE—A SPLENDID FARM OF 128 Acres, two miles of Baden Station, Beaver county. 28 Acres in fine Timber; new Frame House of 6 Rooms; large new Barn; first class Orchard; 300 trees; nearly level; suits for Dairy Stock or Grain; well watered; coal under it. Price $122 per Acre. We have some smaller Tracts for sale. 135 Acres in Indiana county, $6,000, and 250 Acres in Perry county, in Ohio, price $15,000, for exchange. STEVENSON & THOMPSON, 138 Penn street, Pittsburgh, near St. Clair Hotel.

DIVIDENDS.

PITTSBURGH NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE—DIVIDEND—The Directors of this Bank have this day declared a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. out of the profits of the last six months, payable forthwith. JOHN H. HILL, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, January 2, 1875.

TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK—The Directors of this Bank have this day declared a Dividend of FIVE PER CENT., payable on demand. CYRUS CLARKE, Jr., Cashier.

Pittsburgh, January 2, 1875.

OFFICE ALLEGHENY BRIDGE CO.—DIVIDEND—The President and Managers of the Company for erecting a Bridge over the Allegheny River, at or near Pittsburgh, in the county of Allegheny, have this day declared a Dividend of FIVE DOLLARS on each share of the capital stock, out of the earnings of the last six months, payable on demand. To the legal representatives, by the Treasurer, forthwith. W. ROSEBURG, Treasurer.

Pittsburgh, January 1, 1875.

LIBERTY IMPROVEMENT BANK—DIVIDEND—The Directors of this Bank have this day declared a Dividend of FOUR (4) PER CENT. out of the earnings of

The Commercial.

MONDAY JANUARY 4, 1875.

LAST year's expenses of the postal system exceeded the receipts in all but seven of the States and Territories, four of which were in New England. The excess of receipts over expenditures in Pennsylvania was $431,620.

THE New York *Herald* cannot quite understand why so many Democratic officials in that city and State who came into office with the new year, rushed prematurely to qualify themselves under the old oath. Innocent *Herald!* The reason is as plain as a pike-staff. They simply feared the new one.

THE amount to be paid out in New York, this month, as dividends and interest on government and State bonds, railroad stocks and bonds, insurance stocks and miscellaneous securities, aggregates $50,801,818. With the gold dividends reduced to currency, the total reaches about $51,000,000.

THE Louisiana Legislature assembles today. Everything is quiet at present—just as it was before the massacre of September 14. But there is a Congressional Committee in New Orleans, now, investigating the elections—and General SHERIDAN is there, too. We do not look for any new White League outbreaks, just now.

THAT two hundred and seventy-five thousand dollar Pacific Mail intrigant, Congressman SCHUCKER of Brooklyn, was quite forward in the House, a few days before the holiday adjournment, in accusing the Navy Department of malpractice. In unctious exploitation of the honesty dodge your thorough-paced Democratic corruptionist is absolutely unapproachable.

CAPTAIN E. B. WARD, of Detroit, one of the largest iron manufacturers in the country, fell dead from apoplexy in the streets of that city on Saturday. Captain WARD was one of the leading Republicans of Michigan, and a staunch defender of the policy of protection to our home industries. His death is a serious loss to the business interests of the entire Northwest.

ONE of the silliest and most ridiculous exhibitions of malice on record in modern times, was that indulged in by the feminine *elite* of New Orleans on New Year's day, in receiving callers in their private apartments at the St. Charles Hotel in that city, instead of in the parlors, by way of putting "an indignity on General SHERIDAN and the army and navy." Such puerile splenetieism is less suggestive of womanhood than of angry cats.

THE public dent of the United States increased $3,569,967 during the mouth of December. This result arises principally from the marked decrease in the customs revenue, mainly caused by the very general practice of economy throughout the country, which obliges importers to contract their business. The increase of smuggling, also, has unquestionably had something to do with it. It is quite evident that this is no time for the passage of subsidy schemes.

ST. LOUIS is not making that steady progress in the development of her iron manufacturing industries which we had anticipated. According to the annual trade review of that city for last year, the receipts of iron ore during 1873 amounted to 349,357 tons, while during 1874 the receipts were only 166,200 tons, showing a falling off of 183,157 tons. The shipments of iron ore in 1873 were 179,079 tons, and in 1874 they amounted to 108,400—a decrease of 70,679. There are now in Missouri seventeen iron furnaces.

AT THE recent Manhattan Club reunion, in New York, a letter was read from Hon. F. M. Woon, a prominent Democrat of Alabama, which closed with the following ringing lines:

"The day of negro rule has past.
The white man's time has come at last."

It is the great office of the poet to voice the unspoken thought and feeling of the world. What wonder then, that the suggestive couplet of this creative Alabama Bourbon struck a responsive chord in the hearts of the assembled guests, evoking "loud, and continued cheers?"

IT IS to be hoped we are now nearing the beginning of the end of the great Brooklyn scandal. The case is to be brought to trial to-day. The whole country is disgusted with the innumerable legal quibbles and subterfuges that have been employed to avoid the real issue. Mr. BEECHER'S counsel emphatically declare that the question is to be tried "on its merits." We trust so—if it has any merits. At all events, the work of evidence must be so thorough that when the verdict is given no lingering doubt shall remain in the mind of the public.

FROM the detailed statistics of the business of Chicago for the year 1874, as published by the papers of that city, it appears that its total trade, in produce, wholesale and manufactures, excluding all second sales, was valued at $639,000,000, against $556,000,000 in 1873—a gain, despite the panic, the hue and cry against the safety of the city, and the damage caused by the withdrawal of the Insurance Boards, including shrinkage of values, of $43,000,000. This is certainly a most gratifying record, indicative, as it does, of a steady and permanent advance in commerce, manufactures and general prosperity.

OUR theory that education is not necessarily a direct preventive of crime is further sustained by the statistics of the Northern Penitentiary of Indiana, where there are three hundred and twenty-two convicts who can read and write, and only ninety who can do neither. Knowledge is power, undoubtedly; but it is a power which may be made to degrade as well as to elevate. The education of the moral nature should go hand in hand with the developement of the intellect. All our faculties must grow together and work together, else none of them will be apt to thrive properly. For the roots of being strike far below the brain.

A COMPARISON of the British Board of Trade returns for the eleven months of last year ended November 30th, (the latest date for which returns have been received,) with the corresponding periods of the three preceding years, it shows that in 1871 the exportations of iron to the United States were 778,266 tons; in 1872 they were 758,216 tons; in 1873 they declined by more than fifty per cent., to 357,137 tons, and last year there was another drop to 176,841 tons. The result of the four years' movement is that the exports of iron and steel in 1874 were less than twenty-three per cent. of the corresponding exports of 1871. A considerable part of this decline is undoubtedly to be attributed to the depression in business in this country, but there is also much to be ascribed to our larger dependence on home manufactures.

IT IS to be hoped the House will pass the Senate Finance bill immediately upon re-assembling. While the measure is not all it could be wished, yet the interests of millions are measurably provided for. However, there must be concessions before there can be harmony, and harmony before there can be prosperity. The discordant tries which among the various industrial interests of the country are paramount, and each will have to yield to something. This seems harder than all may prosper. Democrat Senators have been what the Republicans made their bill. Thought to accomplish in party on this party of the Republican beginning of a series promises to be the broken column of marches in an unending. The Civil War, the common enemy. The Civil War, the common enemy. The Civil War, the common enemy

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BABBIT METAL.

We call especial attention to our brand of BABBIT METAL, which is superior in many respect to any other Babbit in the market, owing to the popular manner of mixing the metal; its smooth, cool and durable qualities are unequaled. The shape in which it is put up specially adapts it to the

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Manufacturers and Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

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PLAIN AND FANCY GRATES, &c.

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Haskins' Patent Double Spiral Pinions and Rolling Mill Castings,

Of Every Description.

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TWELFTH WARD, PITTSBURGH.

ROLLING MILL CASTINGS,

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SHEARS AND PUNCHES,

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Of Improved Construction.

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Eighth—Effective circulation attained by the

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Six Per Cent. Interest allowed on Time Deposits. Investments made in Government and Real Estate Securities.

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The Tradesmen's National Bank

HAS REMOVED TO ITS

New Banking Rooms,

Cor. Wood St. and Fourth Ave.,

Where its Officers will be pleased to see all its old customers and such new ones as may favor it with their patronage.

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WILLIAM VANKIRK.....Vice President.
CYRUS CLARKE, JR.....Cashier.

ALLEGHENY NATIONAL BANK,

OF PITTSBURGH,

NO. 33 FIFTH AVENUE.

CAPITAL STOCK - - $500,000

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R. W. MACKEY.....Vice President.
W. McCANDLESS.....Cashier.

Allegheny Homestead Bank,

115 WOOD ST., Pittsburgh.

CAPITAL $200,000

Stockholders Individually liable.

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THE

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Chartered by Special Act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, for the

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(Successors to HANNA, HART & CO.,)

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SIGHT DRAFTS ON LONDON.

B. K. JAMISON, W. M. STEWART, J. H. KERSHOW.

ESTABLISHED 1855.

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Dealers in Pittsburgh Bonds and all other Investment Securities.

Loans negotiated on marketable collaterals at current rates.

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GRAIN, SEEDS, HAY, MILL FEED, APPLES, POTATOES, BUTTER, EGGS, CHEESE, POULTRY, GAME, &c.

305 Liberty St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

FLOUR.

Best Brands of Winter and Spring Wheat Flour,

In store and to arrive. For Sale by

D. WALLACE.

WM. HOLMES.....JAMES IRWIN

JAMES IRWIN & CO.,

OIL OF VITRIOL, MURIATIC ACID, NITRIC ACID, ENGLISH CAUSTIC SODA, And AQUA AMMONIA.

OFFICE—NO. 15 MARKET ST., PITTSBURGH

FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, January 2, 1875.

Business to-day has been exceedingly active, and the counters of the banks present somewhat the appearance of ante-panic times. This activity, however, is to be attributed to the fact that the day is sandwiched in between a holiday and Sunday, having a portion of the business naturally belonging to those days crowded on to the legitimate business of Saturday, and to the fact that the January settlements are beginning to create their usual stir in local financial circles. Extended inquiry among the banks reveals the fact that there is no superabundance of money, and while none of the banks complain of stringency, they are not hunting for paper to discount. Among the business public, however, there is considerable complaint of the difficulty in negotiating loans and an unusually severe scrutiny of the character of paper offered, exercised by lenders. The very lax system formerly in vogue in negotiating loans has taught a healthy caution to the banks, and borrowers may as well make up their minds that they must be prepared to bear rigid inquiry into their own standing and into the character of the security offered before they can be favored with the money of other people with which to carry out their enterprises. That the past six months has been a successful and profitable one to the banks is shown by the list of dividends announced elsewhere.

The Farmers' Deposit National bank leads off with a four per cent. quarterly dividend out of the earnings of the last three months; the Allegheny Bridge Company $2 per share, or at the rate of sixteen per cent. a year; the First National declares three per cent. for the past three months; the Penn bank, the Masonic and the Freehold, each pay five per cent. out of the earnings of the last six months. We hear of no regular dividends being passed, and the rates are up to the usual figure.

—The Bank of Pittsburgh published its regular report, dated to-day. This report gives the capital of the bank as $1,163,150; suplus $261,555, or about twenty-three per cent. The deposits are $785,668, and the loans $1,468,733. Among the assets we notice $250,000 of United States 5-20 bonds not entered at par, which, if entered at their market value, would swell the surplus of the bank about four per cent. of the capital stock. With dividend lists such as given, and with statements showing the sound condition and conservative management of our banks, of which the report above is but an example, there is little wonder that prices of local stocks are well sustained and firmly held. Now, that there is so much money being paid out for dividends and interest, investors are looking about them for sound securities, as prices of bank stocks are so high and there are so few shares to be had, even at present quotations, other forms of investment must be had to fill the demand. Since the panic everything in the shape of railroad bonds have been looked upon as unsafe, yet this indiscriminate condemnation of railroad securities is without reason, as there is no better class of investment security to be found than well selected railroad mortgages. As evidence of this we give below some quotations: Albany and Susquehanna first mortgages 108; Chicago, Burlington and Quincy first mortgages 113¾; Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific 108¼; Central of New Jersey firsts 102½; consolidated convertible bonds 103; Chicago and Northwestern sinking fund 102½; Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis 7's 104½; Hudson River 7's 105¾; Harlem 7's 103; Cleveland and Pittsburgh 7's mortgage 101; Alton and Terre Haute 107. Many of these bonds have been quoted as low as are other bonds now below par, and investors have gained, in advanced prices, the benefit of their faith and judgment. On the list of bonds now quoted at from at from fifty to ninety per cent. of their face value are many that will yet rank along side of those above quoted. Of these securities the *American Manufacturer* says:

With the closing year we mark a return in the quotations of many of the railroad securities which for so long a time past have been totally without quotation in our market. North Pacific bonds are selling to some extent here in Pittsburgh at from twenty-five to thirty cents. Connecticut Western bonds at fifty to fifty-five, and many of the bonds of other new enterprises we hear are changing hands for the most part on private sales.

The seven per cent. extension bonds of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company have not as yet achieved a quotation, at least in buying and selling. Loans have been made upon them to good advantage in the Philadelphia market, at from sixty-five to seventy-five cents on the dollar at the rates of interest, and in one instance at least in the same city they have been used as collateral at eighty cents on the dollar.

We are informed that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company is about to issue a pamphlet which contains a full description of the security offered by these bonds, and a detailed account of the earnings of the property of the interest and their final redemption, which it is thought will add to their market value.

We have received many inquiries concerning the new funded bonds of the Valley Railroad. The above is about as reliable information as we have to offer. We can add to this that we know of transactions in which scrap iron was given at twenty-five dollars per ton in exchange for the bonds at seventy-five per cent. and lumber at market quotations in exchange for bonds at eighty-two. While small holders may be compelled to sell at lower figures than these, the price of the bonds will gradually settle to quotations not far from eighty cents. We are asked if we can give any information concerning the bonds of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Minnesota Railroad, to which we reply that the road has a first mortgage of $5,400,000, issued in 1869, on which the road defaulted in November, 1873; that since that time the income bonds for $2,000,000 have been authorized to take up the floating debt and fund the past due coupons. The first mortgage bonds are quoted at about forty to forty-five and the income bonds are not on the market, at least we hear of no sales on which to predicate a quotation.

—The following table shows the price of gold, government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

January 2, 1875.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:30 P. M.
6-20's, 1862, coup.	112½	112½	112½	112½	112½	112½
6-20's, 1862	114½	....	....	....	....	....
6-20's, 1864	116	....	....	....	....	....
6-20's, 1865, new	117½	....	....	....	....	....
6-20's, 1865	118	....	....	....	....	....
6-20's, 1867, 7's	118	....	....	....	....	....
6-20's, 1868	118	....	....	....	....	....
10-40's	114½	....	....	....	....	....
5's, funded coupon	117½	....	....	....	....	....
Currency 6's	117½	....	....	....	....	....
Gold 5 per cents	107½	....	....	....	....	....
Western Union Tel.	79¾	79¾	79¾	....	79¾	79
Pacific Mail	37	....	....	....	....	....
Adams Express	78	....	....	....	....	....
Wells, Fargo & Co.	78	....	....	....	....	....
American Express	56½	....	....	....	....	....
New York Central	96½	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾
Erie	20¼	20¼	20¼	20¼	20¼	20¼
Michigan Central	93	....	....	....	....	....
Michigan Southern	76	76	76	76	76	76
Illinois Central	97½	....	....	....	....	....
Cleveland & Pittsb'h	88	....	....	....	....	....
Cleveland & Toledo	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½
Do. preferred	62	62	62	62	62	62
Fort Wayne	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
St. Paul, common	38½	38½	38½	38½	38½	38½
St. Paul, preferred	70	70	70	70	70	70
Ohio & Mississippi	32	32	32	32	32	32
Union Pacific	36½	36½	36½	36½	36½	36½
Harlem	130	....	....	....	....	....
Hannibal & St. Jos.	25½	....	....	....	....	26
Iron Mountain	9	....	....	....	....	....
C. C. & I. C.	10	9	9	....	....	....
Tennessee 6's	....	79	....	....	....	....
Tennessee, new	....	78	....	....	....	....
South Carolina, Apr.	....	39½	....	....	....	....
South Carolina, July	....	39½	....	....	....	....
Missouri 6's	....	91	....	....	....	....

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central, sales	59¼	....
Pennsylvania Central scrip, sales	105½	....
Reading	54¾	54
United Companies of N. Jersey	127½	....
Oil Creek, sales	....	....
Lehigh Valley	60½	61
Central Transportation	....	43
P. C. & St. L. mortgage bonds, sales	75½	....

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, January 2, 1875.

The general markets were very quiet on Saturday, both on account of the extremely unfavorable condition of the weather, and the fact that merchants everywhere are engaged in making settlements for the year.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce by rail and river since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	787	Apples, bbls	61
Corn, sks	923	Rye sks	53
Oats, sks	666	Butter, pkgs	37
Potatoes, bush	1,582	Hay, bales	380

The following quotations are prices realized on wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. In small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator:

GRAIN, FLOUR AND FEED.

GRAIN—The market for grain was quiet today. There was a large attendance at the Corn and Produce Exchange, but few sales were and transactions were light. The receipts of all kinds of grain for the past three days have been very light. We quote choice Kentucky white wheat at $1 20@1 25 ₱ bushel; extra Michigan white, $1 27; Ohio and Illinois ditto $1 20@1 22; Ohio and Pennsylvania red wheat $1 16@1 18. Corn is quiet, but firm at about previous quotations, viz.: shelled, 77@78c ₱ bushel for high-mixed; 75@76c for low-mixed; ear corn is very slow of movement with ruling figures at 72@74c on track, with ear corn on the wharf quoted at 71@75c. Oats are also moving very slowly, but are firmly held at 62@64c ₱ bushel for white; 61@62c for mixed. Rye and barley are nominal and unchanged.

FEED—The flour trade continues quiet at about previous quotations. The following are the wholesale prices of the local millers: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 20 ₱ bbl; No. 1 amber wheat do $6 50; red wheat flour $6 10; in sacks 30c or ₱ bbl. The jobbing prices of leading dealers are as follows: Choice brands of white winter wheat flour $6 00@6 25; Wisconsin $5 75; Minnesota $5 25@6 00; red winter wheat flour $5 75@6 00; rye flour $5 75; Graham flour $5 75; self-raising flour in 5 ₱ packages, $6 25 ₱ dozen

Corn meal, old, $3 75; new $3 40@3 50; oatmeal $5 00@5 00.

HAY—We quote prime timothy, on track, at $23 00@25 00 ₱ ton; No. 2 do $20 00@21 00; inferior $15 00@16 00; baled hay from store is quoted at $24 00@25 00.

Loose hay is selling at $18 00@20 00 for No. 1, $15 00@17 00 for No. 2. Straw is quoted at $15 00@16 00 ₱ ton.

MILL FEED—Bran is steady at $1 05@1 10 ₱ cwt; stuff at $1 25@1 35 ₱ cwt; middlings $1 50@1 60 ₱ cwt; chopped feed $1 55@1 65 ₱ cwt; oil meal $5 00@5 00 ₱ cwt.

GROCERIES.

The opening of the new year has not brought any material improvement of the grocery trade as yet. Collections are at present occupying the principal attention of business houses in this line. We quote as follows:

Green Coffees.		*Spices.*	
Fancy	21½c	Cloves, ₱ ℔	55 c
Choice	21½c	Allspice, ₱ ℔	17½@18½c
Prime	20½c	Cassia, ₱ ℔	40 @45 c
Good	20 c	Nutmegs, ₱ ℔	110@140
Java	33 c	Pepper, ₱ ℔	27 @28 c
Roasted Coffees.		*Molasses.*	
Rio, in papers	26 c	Strictly ch'e N O	75c
Rio, in bulk	22½c	Prime	70c
Java	35 c	Choice	65c
Sugars.		*Syrups.*	
Standard A	10½c	Ex. white drips	75c
Standard B	10½c	Sugar drips	65c
Standard extra C	10½c	Lower grades	45@50c
Standard white C	10c	*Raisins.*	
Franklin extra C	9½c	Layers, ₱ box	$4 40
American extra C	9½c	Valentia, ₱ ℔	11½c
New Orleans	9½c	Malaga, ₱ box	7 25
Teas.		Prunes	13@15½c
Young Hyson	50@80	*Starch.*	
Gunpowder	50@	Common	5 c
Imperial	50@	Silver glass	9½c
Japan	50@	Corn	10½c
Oolong	25@	*Soda.*	
Fancy	1 00	Bi-carb, ₱ 100-ℓ bgs	6c
Superfine	75@	Bi-carb, ₱ 1 pkgs	8½c
Rice.		*Candles.*	
Choice Carolina	8½c	Star, full weight	15c
Patna	7½@8 c	Stearine	13c
Rangoon	7½c		

FISH—There is a fair demand at prices generally unchanged. We quote as follows:

No. 1 extra mess mackeral ₱ bbl	$25 00	Large do, ₱ 100	$6 50
No. 1 mess	23 00	Boneless codfish ₱ ℔	8
No. 1 shore	20 00	White fish, ₱ half bbl	3 50
Extra No. 1 bay	15 00	₱ bbl	6 50
No. 1 bay	14 00	Lake herring, ₱ ½ bbl	3 50
Extra No. 2	14 00	₱ bbl	4 25
No. 2 bay	12 00	Labrador herring, ₱ bbl	7 50@8 00
New No. 2	11 00	₱ bbl	7 50@9 00
Georges codfish	9 00	Round do	6 75@7 00
Shenadine, ₱ box	7 @8 00		

TOBACCO—The market is firm, and prices are strong. Quotations are as follows:

Spun roll	57@60c	Rough & Ready	55@56c
Black Navy	52@55c	Fine Cut Plugs	70@80c
Black Tens	54@57c	Fine Cut	55@60c
Black Quarters	54@57c	Cut and Dry	40@60c
Louisville Navy	62@65c	Scotch Snuff	65@75c
Louisville Cav.	65@67c	Black Snuff	60@65c
Virginia Navy	55@60c	Twist	50@60c
Virginia Tens	52@60c	Cigars	
Virginia Cav.	60@65c	Penn's Seed	$13@20
Double Thick	60@62c	Connecticut	25@30
Flounders	60@62c	Seed & Havana	30@35
Bright Navy	60@65c	Havana	150@450

CARBON OIL—The market is steady. We quote 11@12c from store; sales of round lots on the cars are such a reduction from these figures.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

APPLES—Transactions are almost entirely in a jobbing way. Extra choice apples are quoted at $2 50 ₱ bbl; $2 00@2 25 for choice; $1 25@1 75 for common to medium.

APPLE BUTTER—The market is quotable at 55@60c ₱ gallon for prime to choice.

BEANS—We quote prime white navy at $2 00@2 25; medium $1 80@1 90; fair to good $1 50@1 70. There is a large stock in this market and the market is weak.

BUTTER—We quote at 30@32c for choice; 26@28c for medium to good.

BEESWAX—Prime yellow beeswax is quoted at 30c ₱ ℔, in round lots; sales in a jobbing way are made at 32c ₱ ℔.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Buckwheat flour is rather scarce, and in large supply at $3 50@4 00 ₱ cwt; $7 00 @ bbl; self-raising buckwheat flour is active, and quoted in 6 ₱ packages at $4 20 ₱ doz packages.

CHEESE—We quote at 17c ₱ ℔ for Ohio fac tory, New York Goshen 17½@18c; Sweitzer 18@19c ₱ ℔.

EGGS—We quote at 27@28c ₱ dozen for strictly fresh; in round lots; 26@30c in cases; packed 26@28c.

CRANBERRIES—We quote at $8 00@10 00 for Western; $10 00@12 00 for Eastern; $14 00 ₱ barrel for Sackett's.

GAME—We quote as follows: Venison—saddles 16@17c ₱ ℔; whole deer 10@12c; prairie chickens $5 50@5 75 ₱ doz; pheasants $5 50@6 00 per doz; quail $1 25@1 50 ₱ doz; wild ducks $3 75@4 00; rabbits 25@30c ₱ pair; squirrels 20@25c ₱ pair; wild turkeys 20@25c ₱ ℔.

HOMINY—The market rules at $4 75@5 00 ₱ barrel.

FEATHERS—Are quoted as follows: No. 1, 37 ½@40c for round lots; 75@75c in a jobbing way; No. 2, 30 @ 32½c, as to quality.

MINCE MEAT—Is quoted at 10c ₱ ℔ in a jobbing way.

ONIONS—We quote at $3 10@3 50 for red; $3 00 @4 00 for yellow.

POTATOES—We quote at 90@95c ₱ bushel for prime; mouldy, from shipping, 75@80c; choice 85@90c ₱ bushel.

POULTRY—We quote jobbing prices as follows: Dressed chickens 11@12c

THE
Pittsburgh Daily Commercial,
GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.
Now is the Time to Subscribe.

The conductors of the COMMERCIAL have for some time contemplated a Reduction in the Price of the Paper to Subscribers, where delivered by Carriers or Agents, and now announce that from and after MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1875, the terms to such will be

Fifteen Cents per Week.

Leave your orders for the Carrier at the Counting Room of this office.

CITY MATTERS.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., January 3, 1874.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	WIND. Force.	Weath.
7 A.M.	30.33	17	67	N.W.	Light.	Clear.
2 P.M.	30.16	35	62	S.W.	Fresh.	Clear.
9 P.M.	30.15	30	85	S.	Light.	Foggy.

Mean barometer....30.19 Highest thermom....35
Mean thermom.... 28 Lowest thermom....17

Sabbath School Anniversary.

The fortieth anniversary of the Sandusky street Baptist Sabbath School, Allegheny city, was held yesterday (Sabbath) afternoon at two o'clock. Addresses were made by John Wright, Esq., the first superintendent, Rev. A. J. Bonsall, Rev. R. W. Pearson, D. D., and Rev. B. F. Woodburn. The exercises were continued in the evening at seven o'clock, when addresses were made by some of our ablest Sunday School workers.

Election of Officers.

At a regular quarterly meeting of the St. Cecilia Silver Cornet Band held, yesterday afternoon, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing six months: Thomas J. Archer, President; Thomas J. Welsh, Vice President; Michael M. O'Connell, Recording Secretary; Frank McNaughlin, Treasurer; Professor S. Arbogast, Band Master; Leader, Thomas Welsh; Assistant Leader, Andrew Wies; Chairman Finance Committee, D. Breen.

Free Instruction at the Western University.

The offer of the Faculty of the Western University to give gratuitous instruction, the present winter evenings, in certain studies, has been responded to by so small a number, that the time of opening cannot yet be announced. It should be understood that the branches to be taught, by familiar lectures—and the only branches to be taught—are political economy, English literature, history, higher mathematics, chemistry, physics and mechanical drawing. To insure success there must be a sufficient number to form a class in one of these branches. The generous offer of the Faculty will test the interest of our young men out of employment in intellectual improvement.

Florida Excursion Routes.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company have just issued from the office of the General Passenger Agent, D. M. Boyd, Jr., a neat little book entitled "Florida Excursion Routes—Season of 1874-5." The number of invalids, and persons of delicate constitution, who escape the rigors of our northern winters by a two or three months' sojourn in Florida, is increasing with wonderful rapidity, and the travel to and from that State has become so important as to require special arrangements on the part of our many railway corporations. The Pennsylvania Railroad, always among the foremost, has given this matter attention, and has arranged a series of excursion routes from various points, all of which are set forth in this little book. There is also an interesting historical sketch of Florida, embracing a description of its climate, scenery, principal cities, hotels, society, etc. The excursion tickets, good for the round trip, will be sold up until April 1st, and will be good to return until April 30, 1875. Those who wish to obtain copies of the book can procure them from Mr. Thos. E. Watt, at the Fifth avenue ticket office.

The Newsboys' Annual Dinner.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The event which interested me more than any other, on New Year's day, was the annual dinner given by Mr. Pittock to his "pet lambs," the newsboys and bootblacks of the two cities. After marching through many of the principal streets, marshaled by one of their own number, known among them as "Reddy the blacksmith," they assembled on Market street, in front of City Hall, at about half-past two o'clock. Here they spent, perhaps, one of the longest hours of their lives awaiting the anxiously expected summons to the rich feast they well knew would be spread before them. For some time the young gentlemen having them in charge tried to keep them in line, often using the small canes which they carried in their hands on the boys' legs, but their efforts were as unsuccessful as were those of the woman who knew long ago, who tried to keep the fast rising river out of her cellar by sweeping it back with a broom—the one was just as possible as the other. In the meantime the amateur waiters in the hall were actively engaged in getting everything ready for their reception. Among those who had seen fit to do duty as waiter for the occasion, I recognized ex-Mayor B. C. Sawyer, Captain Fullwood, Alderman Seanor, and others. About a quarter past three Mr. Pittock entered the hall, leading a small, deformed newsboy by the hand, he carefully arranged a seat for him at the head of one of the tables, by placing an empty box on a chair, and then lifted him in it as tenderly as if he were his own son. After stooping down to hear something the intelligent looking little fellow had to say, he assumed his position at the head and walked away, when the spectators applauded the act, by a vigorous clapping of hands. At half-past three o'clock the four long tables were loaded with a supply of eatables, on which a hungry regiment of soldiers might sumptuously feast. Mr. Pittock then went to the door and brought in the first squad of boys, consisting of about twenty-five. As soon as they entered the band commenced playing a lively tune. He led them to the head of one of the tables, and started one on each side down to the foot where they immediately commenced operations. Mr. Pittock then returned for another squad, which he led in as before, and kept on until all the tables were surrounded. It was exceedingly amusing to witness the energy with which they went to work on the piles of good things before them. From the rapid manner in which they put them out sight, I came to the conclusion that they were not destructive, when at a table, as were the Minnesota grasshoppers when in a field. There was one chap, about twelve years old, who could handle the vittals very fast. I saw him have a piece of turkey and another of bread, standing at an angle from each other in his left hand, while in the right, he held a cup of coffee, all of which he was applying to his mouth alternately, so fast that I was alarmed for his safety. They had no time to say much, for about ten minutes; then they commenced calling for cake, pie, and the pie was brought in, and a quarter given to each boy. Some were not satisfied, and went filibustering around to get more. One young scamp returned from one of his expeditions with five quarters, which he laid down by his plate; while he was triumphantly telling his companions how he fooled the attendants a boy reached over and helped himself to one of the quarters. This enraged him so much that he seized the pile and threw it at the other, but missed his mark and struck a lady who was sitting opposite. For this he was removed from the hall. When their appetites were satisfied, the noise they made with their ceaseless chattering could scarcely be surpassed by the pupils of a large school when at recess. A few minutes before they were dismissed a pile of cigars was brought in. The previous experience in distributing the pies had learned them that unless strong measures were adopted the apple would be entirely cleaned out in a short time. So a police officer was placed on each flank and another sharp looking one on the left, with another in the ring having the basket. Notwithstanding these precautions and the keen lookout kept by the officer, who is not easily fooled, the boys got more than their share, after all had been supplied, and retired three cheers for Mr. Pittock sixty others rich to the relief of about their wants. were waiting outside for moved by the dishes were quickly removed as before, and ers, and one table reset, brought in to rep hungry boys outside predecessors. These operations of their very mischievous there were several them, when it is the scamps among that, at least four hun in consideration fifteen years ole, all under admitted that they behaved, it must be ever bread cast on the wwery well. If after many days, I think is to be seen here given by Mr. Pittock; the annual dinquantities of it to appear more large Kindness, liberally dealt out be future. is rarely, if ever, forgotten by or boys, is cherished by a majority, whom, and an opportunity to repay, in some v wait donor. Consequently the sixteen the dinners given by Mr. Pittock have had hundreds of friends. When I remarked that a boy, whose clear, melodious voice have often heard in the streets of this ci crying: "Here is your morning paper here is your *Post, Dispatch, Gazette* and *Commercial, Journal*," bore the name of John W. Pittock, I can hardly credit my own senses, when they tell me that the *John W. Pittock of to-day*—the span of whose life has not extended much beyond the half of the three score and ten years allotted to man, is the same individual. His success is as well deserved as it has been unprecedented. SPIRIT.

INCENDIARISM.

An Important Arson Case Before the Fire Marshal—Thomas Owens Held for Trial.

A hearing was had on Saturday afternoon, before Fire Marshal Livingstone, in the case of Thomas Owens, charged with the crime of arson. The prisoner was represented by William Owens, Jr., Esq., and the Board of Underwriters by John Coyle, Esq.

THE ARREST.

The examination of witnesses was proceeded with, and the following evidence elicited:

Officer John Aschelman testified that he and Officer Blondin went to Thomas Owens' house on Arch street to arrest him; he arrested Thomas, and then started for David Owens' house, Thomas stating that David lived on Forty-second street; when they started to go to Forty-second street Thomas said, "I don't know where Dave lives at all, and don't know where he is;" Thomas then said, "If you let this matter drop we'll call it square, and I'll not claim any insurance."

CLAIM SETTLED FOR RETURN OF PREMIUM.

W. G. McCandless, of the firm of Swearingen & McCandless, insurance agents, testified that he represented the Fire Association of Philadelphia; Thomas Owens took out a policy of insurance for $300 on the burned house on the 2d of November; he represented his house to be worth $600; last Wednesday week he came to witness and stated that his house was burned the previous Thursday, and that it caught from the house adjoining, occupied by David Owens; David Owens, he said, was not a relative of his; witness, thinking the fire was not altogether accidental, placed the matter in the Fire Marshal's hands; after that—last Saturday—Owens came to the office of witness, and upon his returning the amount of the premium he received the amount of the policy and agreed to make no claim for the insurance money.

Upon cross-examination, Mr. McCandless testified that it was his (McCandless') proposition to return the premium upon canceling the policy, and Owens accepted it; this was the first case of the kind witness ever knew to be settled in this way; witness told Owens that if he did not cancel the policy he would spend the whole amount of it in sending him to the penitentiary.

OTHER SWINDLES.

Thomas D. Keller, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Insurance Company, testified that on the 3d of July last David Owens called on him and took out a policy on a house for $500; there was something unusual in the man's appearance at the time, and the witness had a survey made before taking out the policy; in September David called at the witness' office and stated that his house was burned; while in the office witness contradicted himself when being questioned as to the burning; witness afterward started out for the scene of the fire and on the way found Thomas Owens and David Owens together; believing that the fire was not accidental, witness put the matter in the hands of the Fire Marshal; afterward David and Thomas Owens called at the insurance office and witness told David that he must signed a release to the company he (witness) would give him five dollars; David said: "Are you sure you found anything out?" witness said: "I can make no difference; are you willing to release on payment of five dollars?" he then agreed to do it, and on the payment of five dollars he signed the release and left; some months before this—in November 1873—witness had insured the house of Catharine Owens, wife of Thomas, one of the defendants, for $500; in March following Thomas and his wife called at the office and stated that their house was burned; witness suspected nothing and paid the $500 down.

Gottfried Rudolph testified that he furnished Owens with lumber to build a house that was twice on fire, and never got paid.

H. D. Sietz, secretary of the Householders' Insurance Company, testified that Thomas Owens took out a policy with him on the 16th of June, 1874, for $990; within a month after the house took fire, and on the 10th of August witness paid him $65 in settlement of the loss; a week afterward Owen took out another policy in the German Insurance Company.

Mr. Coyle also presented several affidavits bearing against the prisoner.

THE EIGHTEENTH WARD FIRE.

Warner Powell swears that he lives on the Morningside road, within one hundred feet of the Owens house that was burned, in the Eighteenth ward; that the Owenses moved in three or four weeks before the fire; that there was a black-haired man living in the house also (supposed to be David Owens); the fire took place about half-past seven o'clock; Owens left the house half an hour before, his wife having preceded him; they returned between eleven and twelve o'clock, and Owens acted quite strangely; when they saw the house was burned Mrs. Owens seemed to take it hard, while her husband acted quite comically. About two hours before the fire broke out David and Thomas Owens were together, the former having a large tin box under his arm; the house was a one-story frame, with two shanty kitchens; the building was badly put up; witness, who has had experience in building, could put up the whole thing for $500 and make money out of it; it was not a mechanical job by any means.

Charles Austin, a lumber dealer, states that in October last David Owens purchased lumber, which has not been paid for; the Eighteenth ward house was not worth over $600.

H. M. Boyle, agent of the National Insurance Company, swears David Owens took out a policy with him for $500 on an Eighteenth ward house; after the fire, in answer to a question, David said he owed nothing on the property, but afterward corrected himself by stating that the lot was not paid for; the day after the fire David called at the National Insurance office and seemed anxious to get his money at once, saying he wanted to rebuild right away; he was not paid, however, and was to come the next Thursday, but did not turn up.

Further affidavits accumulated similar evidence, when the prisoner, after consultation with his attorney, waived a hearing, and, in default of $2,500, was committed to jail for trial.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Meeting of the Board of Estimate—Statement of the Expenditures for Fire Purposes the Past Year—Estimate Proposed By the Fire Board—$133,000 Appropriated—Protection for the South Side Hill Districts.

Agreeably to a provision of an ordinance relative to the fire department of Pittsburgh, the "Board of Estimate," held a meeting on Saturday evening for the purpose of fixing the necessary appropriation for the ensuing fiscal year. This Board consists of the Mayor, Controller, Presidents of Councils, Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Board of Fire Commissioners. There were present at the meeting Dr. A. H. Gross, President of Select Council, John R. McCune, Chairman of the Finance Committee, Robert M. Snodgrass, City Controller, and Messrs. George W. Wilson, John J. Verner, Wm. B. Hays, Jenkin Jones and Thomas A. Pender, of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Dr. Gross was called upon to preside.

President Wilson presented a statement of the expenditures for the twelve months of 1874, amounting to $161,000 and odd dollars, including the payments on three new buildings erected, and for new apparatus purchased for the new city districts, extension of the Fire Alarm Telegraph, etc., which would leave the actual running expenses at about $125,000 for the year. Out of the appropriation of 1874, $145,000, and the balance from the previous year, it was expected that $5,000 would remain of this fund in the treasury at the close of the fiscal year, January 31, 1875.

Mr. Wilson also presented the estimate of the Board for the ensuing year, amounting to $138,239 00, with which, including the balance as stated and the receipts from old property sold, the department could be run as efficiently as heretofore, and extended by the addition of a steam engine company at Temperanceville, Thirty-sixth ward, and proper protection for the Hill wards on the South Side. The estimate of the Board of Fire Commissioners was as follows:

For salaries of officers and men, including the telegraph men and the additional company mentioned, and salary expenditures may be needed in the Mt. Washington districts.	$114,239 00
Office expenses, printing, stationery, &c.	500 00
House repairs and alterations (fourteen houses)	5,000 00
House supplies	1,000 00
Light and fuel	3,000 00
Apparatus repairs, &c	3,000 00
Horses and horse expenditures	3,000 00
Horse feed (average of 47 horses)	5,250 00
Harness, leather and fixings	600 00
Hose repairs	500 00
Miscellaneous supplies	1,000 00
Sundry expenses	500 00
Alarm Telegraph expenses	600 00

After a thorough examination of the statement and the estimate, the Board concluded to allow an appropriation for the ensuing year of $133,000, which, with the balance remaining in hand, and with economy, it was believed would run the department.

Adjourned.

Death of Mrs. Joseph G. Siebeneck.

We sincerely regret to announce the death of Mrs. Estelle Siebeneck, wife of Joseph G. Siebeneck, Esq., editor and proprietor of the *Evening Chronicle*. This sad event took place at her husband's residence, Sandusky street, Allegheny, on Saturday afternoon at two o'clock. Mrs. Siebeneck was the daughter of Josiah King, Esq., of the *Gazette*, and was widely known as a highly cultivated and refined lady. Some weeks since, by a fall, she suffered an injury to one of her knees, and, we understand, a surgical operation was found necessary. The best medical attendance, however, was unsuccessful, and for several days her death was feared. Deceased was but twenty-five years of age, and leaves several children. Her husband and relatives have the heartfelt sympathies of a large circle of friends and acquaintances in the sad bereavement. The funeral, their sad bereavement. The announcement will be found elsewhere, announcement will be found elsewhere, services to take place at Trinity church.

PITTSBURGH FINANCES.

Report of Controller Snodgrass for December.

Messrs. Livsey and Sherry, the efficient and accommodating clerks in the City Controller's office, furnish us with the following interesting exhibit of receipts and expenditures for the month of December, 1874:

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURES.	
Diamond market	$ 2,266 67	Interest	$ 85,333 28
Fifth ward market	258 53	Salaries	1,258 40
Fifth ave. tax	6 60	Printing	4 50
South Side mar.	300 20	Fire department	10,624 92
Street engineering	699 67	Police	16,469 95
City weigh scales	281 17	Water works	8,777 45
South Side wharf	300 00	Street works	12,374 76
Interest on Bank balances	631 78	Diamond market	351 47
City gauging	388 75	Fifth ward market	32 50
Street Commissioners, Sixth district, refunded by H. C. Spreen	581 19	Fifth ave. mar.	4,042 67
Weighing coal	575 12	South Side mar.	180 00
Private sealer	31,220 00	South Side wharf	114 38
City tax, 1874	7,585 00	Contingencies	1,415 52
Fire tax, 1874	1,250 00	City scales	9 75
Law'ce'tific special tax, 1874	400 00	Finance	1,415 52
Business tax	1,976 00	Roads	565 14
1873	1,950 00	Surveys	894 61
Water rents, 1874	11,950 00	City Hall furnishing	296 44
City tax, 1873	762 63	Water extension	44,279 78
Fire tax, 1873	270 68	Water bonds, interest	12,480 00
Business tax, '73	251 91	Street and sewer improvements	11,914 77
Water rents, '73	1,284 91	Bonds retired, being cost of municipal sinking fund	22,492 16
Streets, grading and paving	3,509 97	City Hall furniture	28,859 83
Vehicle licenses	22 75	South Side st'rs, debtedness	992 24
Water Works, Mayor's Office, Hon. J. Blackmore	2,166 70	Commissioners collecting vehicle licenses	500 00
Water rents, new buildings,	32 80		817 31
Refunded interest	155 00		
Pittsb. & Birmingham, special tax, '74	603 00		
Boro' St. Clair, special tax, '74	100 00		
Boro' Allentown, special tax, '74	125 00		
Borough Att., Washington, special tax	300 00		
Borough Union, special tax, '74	50 00		
Boro' Temperanceville, special tax, '74	1,825 03		
Publishing ord.	10 00		
Temporary loan, to pay interest on streets under Penn ave. sew'r'ge	113,112 00		
Accrued interest on temporary loan	694 17		
	$221,351 53		$205,437 48
Balance in Treasury December 1, 1874			$227,871 61
Receipts for December			221,351 53
Total			$449,223 04
Disbursements in December			205,437 48
Balance in Treasury, December 31, 1874			$183,785 56
Deposited in City Depositories			183,785 56

DEPOSITORY ACCOUNT.

Freehold Bank	$61,255 18
Pittsburgh Savings Bank	61,255 19
Duquesne Bank	61,255 19

THE PRISON BOARD.

Report of the Warden—The Bread and Meat Contract—Election of Officers, etc.

A regular meeting of the Board of Prison Inspectors was held on Saturday, Judge Kirkpatrick presiding.

Warden Smith presented his quarterly report, up to January 1st, showing that 433 court prisoners had been received, and 915 under summary convictions. An exactly equal number were discharged during the same time. There are now in jail 112 court prisoners, and 41 under summary conviction—total, 153.

Bids for supplying bread were then opened, as follows: S. Startz, 3 cents; P. Lynch, 3 cents; Snowden & Camp, 3 cents; Hugh Ward, 2 9-10 cents; John Doyle, 2½ cents per pound. Mr. Doyle was awarded the contract.

Bids for furnishing meat: C. H. Welty, 6 cents; Simon Brahm, 5 cents per pound. The latter received the contract.

Mr. A. W. Smith, warden, was unanimously re-elected.

For jail physician there were two candidates, Drs. W. J. Gilmore and W. H. McKelvey. On the first vote Dr. Gilmore received six votes and Dr. McKelvy five. The second ballot resulted the same, and also the third, when the consideration of jail physician was postponed until the next regular meeting of the Board. The rules of the Board require the votes of a majority of the members—seven—to elect. The application of James Blackmore to vote by proxy was voted out of order.

Judge Sterrett was unanimously elected President Judge, and Henry Warner Secretary for the ensuing year.

The Secretary then called the attention of the Board to the published report that an attempt would be made at the coming meeting of the Legislature to divert the liquor license fund from the County Treasury.

On motion of Judge Collier, Judge Sterrett, Commissioner Murray and Secretary Warner, were appointed a committee to recommend such action in the premises as they should deem proper to be taken by the Board, the committee to report at a special meeting of the Board, to be called for that purpose on the 16th of January.

The following gentlemen were appointed members of the Quarterly Committee for the ensuing quarter: Judge Stowe, Sheriff Hare and Secretary Warner.

WEEK OF PRAYER

Union Services in Lawrenceville.

A programme has been arranged for the observance of the week of prayer, by the congregations of the Lawrenceville Presbyterian, the Butler street Methodist Episcopal, the Seventh United Presbyterian, and the Thirty-seventh street Baptist churches, as follows:

Monday evening, January 4th, Presbyterian church, Thirty-ninth street. Topic—"Man's Condition by Nature." 7:30 o'clock, devotional exercises, led by the pastor. 8 o'clock, sermon by the Rev. A. J. Bonsall.

Tuesday evening, January 5th, Butler street Methodist Episcopal church. Topic—"The Remedy." 7:30 o'clock, devotional exercises, led by the pastor. 8 o'clock, sermon by the Rev. W. H. Andrew.

Friday evening, January 8th, Seventh United Presbyterian church. Topic—"The work of the Holy Spirit." 7:30 o'clock, devotional exercises, led by the pastor. 8 o'clock, sermon by the Rev. W. B. Watkins, D. D.

The Sabbath services are left discretionary with the pastors, and are to be held in their respective churches.

New Year Casualties and Crimes.

The following are some of the casualties and crimes which have occurred in this locality since the opening of the new year:

John Lutz, Perry street, Allegheny, while fooling with a pistol Friday morning, shot himself in the leg.

John Reinhart loaded his pistol with stones, and shot off three of his fingers.

Mr. J. Bradley, livery man, was thrown from his horse Friday evening and severely injured.

A young man named Myers, while attempting to separate his brother and another man who were fighting in a barroom on the South Side, had his leg broken.

Mr. John Swindham, residing at No. 51 Wylie avenue extension, lost his right eye by a shot from an air gun which he had charge of at the Trinity church fair.

A boy named Hasmeyer shot his thumb off with a pistol.

A young man named Schultz, who lives at No. 4 Mary street, Allegheny, put a ball in his leg.

Messrs. John Dickson and George Bothwell, of Allegheny, met on Union avenue Thursday evening, and Mr. D. struck Mr. B. a blow on the head, knocking him senseless. The injured man is attended by Dr. Thorn, who states that his injuries are of a serious character. The existence of a former injury to the skull makes the present a more serious one than it otherwise would be. Dickson was held in the sum of $2,000 to appear at a hearing before Mayor Fleming this morning. An ill feeling has existed between the parties for some time.

P. R. Sawyer, Esq., of Allegheny, had his horse and buggy stolen from in front of a residence on Union avenue, while he was inside making a New Year's call.

Alderman McHenry, of Allegheny, held Mr. Harbering, a saloon-keeper in the Diamond, in the sum of $1,000 for trial on a charge of selling liquor to minors. C. D. Hines is the complainant.

Alexander Boggs, of J. J. White, of the East End, it is alleged, indulged in the pastime of shooting at one another last Friday. Each party has charged the other, before Alderman Nichols, with felonious assault and battery.

Officer Bowden on New Year's eve arrested a boy named Edward Sullivan, on a charge of stealing a suit of clothes from the residence of Thomas Cartin, on Lacock street, Allegheny. As Mr. C. refused to prosecute, the boy prisoner was discharged.

About six o'clock on New Year's morning some thieves broke a large plate-glass window in Lowden's hardware store, 218 Ohio street, Allegheny, and stole three revolvers out of the window.

During the holiday vacation, an organ, valued at $300, was stolen from the Trinity ward school house, Allegheny.

EDUCATIONAL.

The Washington County Teachers' Institute.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.
CANONSBURG, January 1, 1875.

The proceedings of yesterday afternoon may be summarized thus: Dr. French discussed the subject of school government, followed by remarks from Miss Sanford. "How shall the needed moral influence in education be secured?" discussed by Miss Sanford and Rev. Mr. Ewing and Rev. Van Emman. Prof. Hemphill, of Monongahela City, read a paper on the advantages of a prescribed course of study for country schools.

In the evening there were literary performances and an oyster supper, prepared by the ladies of the Presbyterian church, which was largely patronized, the proceeds to be given to the Kansas sufferers.

The prizes for best spelling were publicly presented to those of the successful contestants present. The presentation addresses were made by Hon. A. J. Buffington, Mr. Jas. McCabe and Prof. Dickson, of Sewickley. The Rev. M. B. Sloan, of Pittsburgh, has presented his pleasant countenance, and has made many old friends happy in a renewal of his acquaintance.

FRIDAY MORNING, January 1st.

After devotional exercises, Dr. French again took up "Lessons on the Globe." He advised teachers to take a globe to their rooms at night, and study the phenomena of light and darkness from the light of a single lamp. Before explaining the motions of the earth, give the pupils distinct ideas of the mathematical facts necessary to understand them.

Professor Ehrenfeld, principal of the Southwestern State Normal School, said he would not take up any educational topic, owing to the unavoidable lateness of his arrival. He said a word for the Normal school. It has been a State school since the 26th of May, and students have been enjoying the benefits of the appropriations for that purpose. The buildings are completed and the faculty full. Drawing has been added, and is taught by a very competent teacher.

Miss Sanford gave a very instructive and entertaining talk on the city of Venice. She exhibited a number of pictures of the noted places, and related most interesting facts concerning them. She thought teachers should illustrate and teach history by some such means.

Adjourned. M.

SERIOUS CUTTING AFFRAY.

A Fight with Razors Between Two Colored Men—Serious Injury of One of Them—Arrest.

A desperate fight took place about eleven o'clock yesterday morning, in a barber shop on Second avenue, near Try street, between two colored men, the weapons being razors. There were no witnesses present, and the stories of the two men, of course, conflict. The parties engaged in the conflict were Charles Peterson, a barber and owner of the shop, and John Williams. About the hour mentioned, Peterson came out of the house, blood streaming from his cheek, and made his way to the office of Dr. Arthurs. The lower part of his left ear was cut entirely off, and a ghastly wound extended on the side of his cheek to his chin. The physician stitched the wound and did it up.

Peterson was taken to his place of residence, the Falstaff House, at Grant street and Second avenue. Subsequently the wounded man was destroyed, Friday morning. Mr. Lynn, a daughter, and a young lady school teacher named Clara Stewart, from Armagh, Indiana county, and who was boarding with Mr. Lynn, escaped by jumping out of the windows, but, unfortunately, not until they were severely and probably fatally burned. Mr. Lynn's daughter, Mary E., a young lady eighteen years of age, and Edward Mason, aged about seventeen years, whose parents reside in Johnstown, and who was working for Mr. Lynn, were unable to make their escape, and were burned to death in the building.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE Allegheny police will be paid today.

TWENTY-FOUR inmates of Dixmont have been sent to Erie.

THE new Councils of this city meet today for organization.

THE public schools reopen to-day after the holiday vacation.

THERE were one-fifth more deaths in Allegheny last year than in 1873.

IT is reported that Alderman Baillie, of Allegheny, sailed for Ireland last Thursday.

THERE were only two false alarms of the seventy-four sounded in Allegheny during the past year.

THE term of office of the Allegheny Poor Directors will expire on the first Monday in February.

THERE is a report abroad that the boilers desire to resume work at five dollars and a half per ton.

SINCE the Crusaders started in June, 1872, they have received 4,869 signatures to their total abstinence pledge.

SEVERAL articles of jewelry were stolen from the residence of Robert W. Wright on Friday afternoon last.

A YOUNG men's Bible class was organized yesterday, in the parlors of the First Christian church, Allegheny.

A WORN out horse while attached to an ash cart, fell down on Smithfield street, Saturday evening, and expired.

MAYOR FLEMING was presented with a gold-headed cane, Friday evening, by the members of the Allegheny police force.

THE wife of Mr. Thomas St. Clair, clothier, corner of Liberty street and Virgin alley, died at two o'clock this morning.

THE Allegheny Board of School Controllers, if a quorum be present, will hold its regular monthly meeting to-morrow night.

WE REGRET to state that Mr. Wm. K. Nimick, of the firm of Nimick & Co., is lying seriously ill at his residence on Penn avenue.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, connected with St. Paul's Cathedral, distributed two hundred loaves of bread to the poor Friday morning.

The Allegheny Councils will meet and organize to-morrow morning at ten o'clock, when Mayor-elect Phillips will be duly installed.

WE FOUGHT to obtain no definite information, yesterday, regarding the reported reduction of wages and passenger fares on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

COL. S. A. BLACK, for ten years Superintendent of the middle division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, has retired, and Mr. J. M. McCrea has been appointed to the position.

THE Apollo Baptist church, Rev. Lloyd Morgan, pastor, is enjoying a season of great prosperity. Thirty have recently been added, and a deep work of grace is still going on.

MR. SAMUEL REYNOLDS, malleable iron manufacturer, gave a supper to a large number of persons in his employ on New Year's eve, at the Central Hotel, in the Allegheny Diamond.

REV. N. J. WILSON, D. D., of the Allegheny Theological Seminary, delivered his able lecture on "John Knox" at Brookville, Pa., on Wednesday evening, to a large and delighted audience.

MAJOR W. M. HARTZELL, it is said, will likely be continued as clerk under Mayor McCarthy. He has made a most faithful officer, is every way competent, and his retention would give wide satisfaction.

WM. B. Ross will, in all probability, be the next Chief of Police of Allegheny City. He would unquestionably make an active and energetic officer, and would not wear the seat out of his pants sitting in the office.

THERE will be a public installation of the officers of North Side Lodge K. of P., at their Hall over the Franklin Savings bank, Federal street, Allegheny, to-morrow evening. The D. D. G. C., Robert R. Reno, will officiate.

THE Humane Society will hold its first annual meeting on Wednesday week; next, in one of the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association. All persons, male and female, interested in the prevention of cruelty to animals are invited.

L. J. HAUPT, Esq., editor of the Mount Vernon, Ohio, *Banner*, was in the city on Saturday, having just returned from a trip through Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Tennessee. He was exceedingly well treated during his journey, and his trip was therefore a very pleasant one.

ABOUT three o'clock Friday morning the stable of Mr. John Burchell, on Heron alley, between Union avenue and Irwin, dusky street, Allegheny, was destroyed by fire. A horse and dog in the building were burned to death. Loss about $600; insured in the Western Company for $1,000.

AMONG the letters of administration granted in the County Register's office during the month of December were: To Margaret W. Holmes, estate of John K. Holmes, bond $40,000; to R. B. Petty on estate of Dr. A. C. Murdock, bond $30,000; to G. P. Robertson on estate of Mary R. Robertson, bond $70,000.

ON New Year's night a suspicious looking individual met Mr. R. F. Elliott on Brushton avenue, East End, and seemed bent of having that gentleman produce his watch and state the time. Mr. E. was not possessed of one, and, after the two had walked a little distance, a third party coming along the stranger quit.

THE Women's Christian Temperance Alliance have passed the following: "Inmuch as the subjects for the week of prayer do not mention temperance, the Women's Christian Temperance Alliance request the Women of Pittsburgh to meet daily during the week of prayer in the Alliance rooms at half-past two o'clock P. M., to invoke the divine blessing upon the cause of temperance."

THE new shell boat made in England for Eph. Morris, the rower, arrived here on Saturday evening but in a somewhat damaged condition, one of its ribs having been broken during its transportation. This, however, can be repaired without detracting from the beauty and usefulness of the little craft, which is one of the finest every seen in this county. It was presented to Morris by Robert Liddell, of this city.

COMMON COUNCIL.

Adjourned Meeting Saturday.

The Common branch of Pittsburgh Councils held an adjourned meeting Saturday afternoon to dispose of unfinished business.

President Negley having called the Council to order, Mr. Duff moved a suspension of the rules for the purpose of introducing new business. The motion was carried. Mr. Duff then arose, and, with appropriate remarks, presented to President Negley, on behalf of the members of the Common Council, twelve handsome volumes of volumes of Froude's History of England. President Negley said he knew and felt that the gift came from warm hearts, and in receiving the motion was carried. He would keep it as a memento of their pleasant associations in times past.

When President Negley had concluded, he asked if there was any other order of business. Mr. Duff said he had been appointed on behalf of the members of Common Council, to present Mr. Booth, their clerk, with a testimonial, showing their appreciation of him as an efficient and trustworthy official. The gentleman concluded by presenting Mr. Booth with a handsome silver service, consisting of a salver, pitcher and gobiets. On each piece was the inscription, "Presented to Mr. George Booth, by the members of Common Council, 1875."

Mr. Booth responded in a fitting manner. Unfinished business was then taken up.

The ordinance authorizing an exchange of water extension bonds was taken up, and after much discussion, action was postponed.

A number of petitions and resolutions for refunding overpaid taxes were acted on.

Mr. Duff reported that the committee which had been detailed to secure a hatrack from the Select Council Chamber, had succeeded, upon which it was tendered a vote of thanks.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Foley, which passed unanimously, after which the meeting adjourned:

Resolved, That the thanks of Councils be and they are hereby tendered to the reporters of the press for their uniform fair and impartial reports of the proceedings of this Council.

OUR STREETS.

The Committee's Annual Report—The Expenditures Made and the Work Done—The July Flood.

The Street Committee of Pittsburgh Councils have prepared a report of the business of the past year, from which we extract the following:

A careful estimate of the extra items of expense caused by the great flood of the 26th of July shows it to be about $25,000. During the year twenty-seven contracts for grading and paving of streets, &c., were awarded; ten contracts for the construction of sewers; two boardwalks; one culvert and a large number of bridges and broken sewers repaired.

Owing to the soft weather last winter, the condition of the streets at the commencement of spring was unusually bad. The committee think, all things considered, the condition of the streets was as good as could be expected.

The annexed tabular statement shows the manner of the disbursements:

ANNUAL EXPENDITURES.

First district	$ 23,641 58
Second district	20,653 66
Third district	16,217 59
Sixth district	12,189 18
Seventh district	20,278 87
Board of Viewers	5,358 22
Miscellaneous expenditures	1,915 60
Amount of disbursements	140,000 00
Balance unexpended (about)	10,000 00

NEW CHIEF OF POLICE.

John Irwin Displaced By Samuel Long.

Very general surprise was expressed on Saturday, upon the announcement that Mayor Blackmore had displaced John Irwin, and appointed Samuel Long as Chief of Police, for the remainder of the term. Repeated attempts had been made by the friends of the Mayor, for the good of the public and his own good, to induce him to remove Irwin, but to no purpose. The press generally had demanded it, but no heed was paid to the call. Unfortunately for Irwin and state the time. Mr. E. was not possessed of one, and, after the two had walked a little distance, a third party coming along the stranger quit.

Allegheny Carriers' Report.

The following shows the business transacted by the Allegheny letter carriers, during December, 1874:

	Delivered.	Collected.
Mail letters	85,929	38,448
Mail postal cards	5,327	
Local letters	37,439 16	2,826
Local postal cards	5,567	2,347
Papers	45,861	2,614

THE CITY ELECTION.

An Alternative Mandamus—What will the Mayor Do?

In the Court of Common Pleas on Saturday, M. Powers, on behalf of the Taxpayer's Union, presented a petition for a *mandamus* on Mayor Blackmore, to compel him to issue a proclamation for the election on the third Tuesday of February next, of a Mayor, City Controller and City Treasurer. The committee appointed to take charge of the proceedings in Court are Alexander King, Isaac Jones, Thomas Mellon, William Frew, George H. Keyser, Wm. Ward, Samuel McClurken and John Dunlap. The bill alleges that the last election was premature, for the reasons already given in published opinions on that side of the question. The law requires that the proclamation be issued ten days before the third Tuesday of February, and the Court directed to be issued what is called an alternative *mandamus*, which requires the Mayor to issue his proclamation as prayed for, or show cause on the 16th inst. why he should not. The case, then, stands thus: The Mayor must either show cause why he should not issue a proclamation, or, failing to do so, must render himself amenable to the court. If he fails to respond to the rule, it may be taken as an evidence of his intention to obey the alternative *mandamus*. It must be remembered that the position which the Mayor has taken is, that having proclaimed for the last election, he would not proclaim for another unless ordered to do so by the courts. He is now lying quite ill, and it is not known what course he will pursue. It is intimated, however, that he will probably answer the rule to show cause.

COMMISSIONER SPREEN.

A Charge of Embezzlement Preferred Against Him.

On Saturday, at the instance of City Attorney Bigelow, Controller Snodgrass made information before Alderman Louis Hager, charging H. C. Spreen, late Street Commissioner of the Sixth district, with embezzlement. A warrant was issued,